

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SEOUL 10292 310530Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05
CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04
SIL-01 /090 W
-----310848Z 040799 /21

R 310320Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1297
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONGEN HONG KONG

UNCLAS SEOUL 10292

HONG KONG FOR REGFINATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, KS
SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY 1976 GNP DATA

1. BANK OF KOREA (BOK) ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 30 PRETMINARY
GNP DATA AS ROK CLOSED OUT SECOND BEST YEAR ECONOMICALLY.
REAL GNP GREW BY 15.2 PERCENT TO 4,757 BILLION WON (\$9.83
BILLION) PACED BY THE EXPORT SECTOR WHICH, IN 1970 CONSTANT
PRICES, INCREASED BY 40.1 PERCENT AND A PICK UP IN GROSS FIXED
INVESTMENTS IN THE SECOND HALFPER CAPITA GNP ROSE 31 PERCENT
TO \$698.

2. AFTER A SLOW START INVESTMENT EXPENDITURES GATHERED
MOMENTUM DURING THE YEAR, CLOSING AT A 16 PERCENT INCREASE.
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES WERE UP 17 PERCENT
AND GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION AT 42 PERCENT. PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION
EXPENDITURES REMAINED IN THE DOLDRUMS WITH RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION
DOWN BY 25 PERCENT. GROSS FIXED INVESTMENTS ENDED THE YEAR
AT 27 PERCENT OF REAL GNP.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SEOUL 10292 310530Z

3. PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF EXPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES
ON A NATIONAL ACCOUNTS BASIS IN CURRENT PRICES WERE \$8.9
BILLION WITH IMPORTS AT \$9.06 BILLION RESULTING IN A SMALL
CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT OF \$160 MILLION. IN CURRENT PRICES
EXPORTS WERE UP BY 57 PERCENT.

4. INFLATION RATE AS MEASURED BY GNP DEFLATOR WAS 15.7 BUT WHOLESALE PRICES SHOWED A MODERATE 9 PERCENT RISE. IN CURRENT PRICES GNP INCREASED 33.4 PERCENT TO 12,108 BILLION WON (\$25.2 BILLION). PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES EXPANDED BY 7 PERCENT IN REAL TERMS BUT NOW STAND AT ONLY 60 PERCENT OF GNP COMPARED TO 68.5 PERCENT IN 1973. GOVERNMENT CONSUMPTION WAS A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGH 15.7 PERCENT. IN CURRENT PRICES NATIONAL SAVINGS WERE 21.4 PERCENT OF GNP.

5. COMMENT: AS EXPECTED, THE ROK CLOSED OUT A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR WITH PROSPECTS STILL HIGH FOR ANOTHER GOOD YEAR IN 1977. EXPORTS REMAINED THE ENGINE OF GROWTH CONTRIBUTING OVER ONE THIRD TO THE GROWTH RATE. A 26 PERCENT RISE IN MANUFACTURING OUTPUT WAS DUE PRINCIPALLY TO SIZABLE INCREASES IN EXPORTS OF ELECTRONICS, MACHINERY, FOOTWEAR AND GARMENTS. FINAL RESULTS IN 1977 WILL GREATLY DEPEND ON CONTINUED EXPORT GROWTH.
SNEIDER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GNP, BANK DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL10292
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D770001-0355
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976121/aaaaaagt.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <29 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRELIMINARY 1976 GNP DATA
TAGS: EGEN, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006